

### **REMARKS**

The last Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered. The following remarks are submitted herewith for the Examiner's kind consideration with respect to the patentability of Claims 1-14 which are pending in the application. No amendments to the claims have been made herein.

The Examiner's allowance of Claims 1, 7 and 11-14 is acknowledged and gratefully appreciated. These claims are in independent form.

Claims 2-6 and 8-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out the invention. Claims 2-6 and 8-10 are in dependent form, and depend from allowed independent Claims 1 and 7. The Examiner comments that it is unclear how the claimed subject matter recited in Claims 2-6 and 8-10 are related to Claims 1 and 7. The Examiner kindly noted that Claims 2-6 and 8-10 will be allowed once their formal grounds of rejection have been addressed.

The undersigned attorney called Examiner Worku on April 17, 2008 for an explanation of his rejection of Claims 2-6 and 8-10, as the Examiner's rejection of the claims was not understood by the undersigned attorney. The undersigned attorney respectfully believes that there appears to be nothing wrong with dependent Claims 2-6 and 8-10, and proper antecedent basis for the terminology recited in these claims is found in main independent Claims 1 and 7, respectively.

Examiner Worku courteously telephoned the undersigned attorney on April 18, 2008, and the undersigned attorney and Examiner Worku discussed the formal rejection of Claims 2-6 and 8-10. The undersigned attorney advised Examiner Worku that the dependent claims appear to be in proper form and that there was antecedent basis for the terms recited in the claims.

Examiner Worku said that he had spoken to his supervisor, and he now believes that dependent Claims 2-6 and 8-10 are in proper form as presented, and he has withdrawn his rejection. Examiner Worku instructed the undersigned attorney to mention the telephone

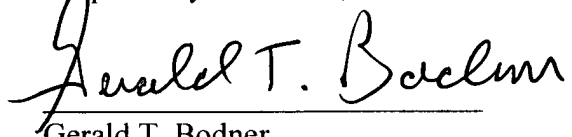
Applicant(s): Makoto Saitoh  
Application No.: 10/797,648  
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conversation that the undersigned attorney had with him on April 18, 2008 in an appropriate  
Reply to Office Action.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the formal rejection of Claims 2-6 and 8-10  
under Section 112 be withdrawn, and that Claims 2-6 and 8-10 be allowed, as they are in proper  
form.

In view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration of dependent Claims 2-6 and 8-10 and  
allowance of the application with Claims 1-14 are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gerald T. Bodner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

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